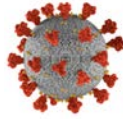


# TRASH TALK

May 2020



## COVID-19 guidelines



**Protect yourself  
and garbage and  
recycling workers**

Solid waste collection companies are providing an essential service necessary to maintain the health and safety of Oregon communities, and they can only do so if they can stay healthy. It is vital that customers take precautions to protect themselves, and to protect those workers who are on the frontlines of collecting solid waste and recycling.

Solid waste collection employees are educated in best practices to avoid transmission, including good hygiene, wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, and maintaining social distance of six feet from others. Customers should also practice similar protective practices, including:

### GARBAGE

- ✓ Bag and tie garbage and place in cart or dumpster.
- ✓ Don't open or remove bagged garbage after placing in cart or dumpster.



### RECYCLING



At this time, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) all agree that if handled with caution, using correct personal protective equipment and following safe hygiene practices, recycling materials are not a pathway to COVID19 infection (source: National Waste & Recycling Association).

- ✓ Place loose recyclables in carts and bins - DO NOT bag recycling.
- ✓ Make sure all recycling is clean, empty, and dry.
- ✓ Place only program recyclables in recycling carts - NO plastic bags in recycling.

### CUSTOMERS

- ✓ Before and after collection, wipe down carts with disinfectant, especially the handles and lids.
- ✓ Leave 5 feet of clearance between each cart whenever possible for automated collection.
- ✓ Wash hands after returning carts to storage locations and continue to maintain social distance from others.

## In the Know

### Alerts & Updates

**Download our app and make the most of your service**

Thompson's Sanitary launched its app in August of 2019 and since then almost 350 of our customers are using it regularly to receive updates on service, notifications of events, scheduling a bulky item pickup, and searching our Waste Wizard to learn how to properly dispose of their items. Join other Newport residents and download it today. Go to [thompsonsanitary.com](http://thompsonsanitary.com) or the app store to sign up!

### TSS Takeout lunches

**Supporting locally-owned restaurants with weekly takeouts**



(l-r) Driver Rick Hernandez receiving lunch from Route Supervisor Jason Collard on the Bay Road.

When the Governor's Executive order went into effect closing all restaurants to takeout only, Thompson's wanted to help locally-owned restaurants by supporting them through weekly takeout lunches for all employees. The takeout crew delivers lunch to drivers on route, employees working from home, as well as employees working in our shop and transfer station. We are proud to have supported Chalet, Clearwater, Gyro Guys, Newport Brewing, Mo's, and Cafe Stephanie.

# COMPOST GIVE-AWAY

## *in celebration of Earth Day*

On Saturday, April 25th, Thompson's Sanitary hosted it's annual compost give-away in honor of Earth Day. This year on April 22 was the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.



The event started at 9:00am and vehicles were lined by 7:45am waiting for their free load of compost, which were limited to one per family. This year, Thompson's arranged for two semi-truck loads of compost, instead of it's usual one, to be trucked over from Pacific Region Compost (PRC) outside of Corvallis, the largest



A bird's eye view of the line of cars waiting for compost

commercial Compost facility between Seattle and San Francisco and where Thompson's hauls all of its raw Mixed Compostables material collected curbside and through the Agate Beach Transfer Station. Once our trucks haul it to PRC, it goes through a 75-day process of being turned into compost including grinding the larger material, turning the windrows of material with specialized machinery, and setting the food waste on air pads.

Most of PRC's compost is sold in agricultural applications, but some is sold to local bark yards.

In all, Thompson's Sanitary loaded 65 trucks, trailers, and cars with compost to be used in garden's across our community.



(l-r) Blair, Piper, and Jillian Thompson greeting customers at the compost event.

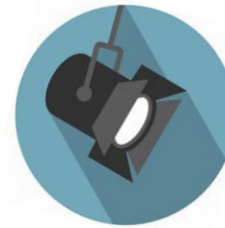


Olivia Schroeder, Newport resident and Sam Case teacher, getting a load of compost for her garden.



Please recycle this newsletter when it's useful life is over.

## *Employee Spotlight:*



# BEN SUMPTER

Ben is our newest route driver, picking up curbside recycling both residentially and commercially. As he makes his way through the streets of Newport and South Beach, you might even find him smiling to himself as he's driving down the road as his fellow team members describe him as always having a friendly disposition and amazing attitude.

Although he may be fairly new to the Newport area, moving here in May 2019, he enjoys all the Coast has to offer: fishing, crabbing, clam digging, and golf. And when the weather cooperates, you can find him riding his beloved Harley Davidson motorcycle, along with his partner Laura, exploring the highways and byways in our area. Ben is also a proud father of two grown boys, 37 year-old twins Eric and Derick.



Ben and Laura on their Harley.

In the past, Ben has been very active with the Wounded Warrior Project, which is a charity and veterans service organization offering a variety of programs, services and events for wounded veterans of the military actions following September 11, 2001. He now spends time with former soldiers suffering with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). Ben knows firsthand what it means to serve our Country as he was a 1st Sergeant with the Army's Field Artillery unit in Desert Storm. We hope our customers will join us in thanking him for his service.

Ben is a great addition to our team and we feel fortunate to have someone of his character working at our family-owned business. If you happen to pass Ben on the road, give a wave or a thumbs up to one of Newport's essential workers.